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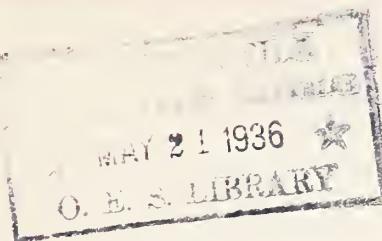
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OUTWITTING THE CLOTHES MOTHS

Clothes moths have the reputation of enjoying nothing so much as a fine meal of fur or wool clothes, rugs, blankets, and furniture coverings. The adult, or parent, clothes moths are not the actual culprits that do the chewing. When they fly about among unused garments in a closet, they are only looking for a good place to lay their eggs. When the eggs hatch, the larvae will do the chewing. A moth's idea of a suitable home for its young is a nice woolen overcoat, sweater or gloves, or a soft, thick fur piece, or a rug. From the moth's standpoint, a few food spots on these articles improve the larva's meal.

To circumvent the moths, there are two things to do. First, clean everything promptly and thoroughly before putting it away, or have each garment dry-cleaned. If the cleaning is done at home, each piece should be brushed, aired, and sunned after the spots have been removed. This treatment should rid the garment of any moth eggs that may already be lodged in seams, pockets, or other inconspicuous places.

Second, get the clothes into safe storage as soon as possible. Delay at this point may give a moth the opportunity to lay eggs, and all the preliminary cleaning and brushing will be wasted effort. Safe storage may be a good tight cedar chest or any tightly closing trunk or box which moths cannot enter; or a garment bag which has no crack or

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opening at the bottom, sides, or where the hanger comes through; or simply a suit box or package, carefully wrapped in strong, unbroken paper with the ends turned under and all edges sealed with gummed paper. A pound or two of naphthalene flakes or balls or paradichlorobenzene crystals scattered through the articles in the trunks or packages will be an extra safeguard and well worth the cost. They do no good in closets unless the closets are thoroughly sealed, because the fumes are not confined. Safe storage to whom it is available may be cold storage.

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